

COTTON DECLARED
WAR CONTRABAND
BY GREAT BRITAIN

France to Follow Suit and London Government Will Act to Relieve Trade Depression.

LINTERS, WASTE, YARN
INCLUDED IN THE ORDER

United States Is Certain to Protest Against the Action Taken.

IS A CHANGE IN POLICY

Washington Has Steadily Maintained That British Were Violating Rules of Law in Seizing Non-Contraband Staple.

LONDON, August 21, 6:11 p.m.—Cotton has been declared absolute contraband by Great Britain, according to a statement issued by the foreign office this afternoon.

The statement declares that the government proposes to initiate measures to relieve depression which might temporarily disturb the cotton market because of the contraband order.

It was learned upon inquiry at the foreign office that the French government will issue a similar notice early tomorrow.

Text of Announcement.

The announcement follows: "His majesty's government has declared cotton absolute contraband. While the circumstances might have justified such action at an earlier period, his majesty's government are kind to think that the contraband of American interests likely to be affected are more favorable for such a step than they were a year ago, and moreover, his majesty's government contemplate initiation of measures to relieve as far as possible any abnormal depression which might temporarily disturb market conditions."

Effective From August 21, 1915.

The declaration is effective from today. A royal proclamation concerning the subject was published in a supplement of the London Gazette issued to-night. It is very brief. After a preamble citing various proclamations concerning contraband, it says:

"Now, therefore, we do hereby declare, by and with the advice of our privy council, that during the continuance of the war, or until we give further public notice to the contrary, articles will be treated as absolute contraband in addition to those set out in our royal proclamations aforesaid:—Raw cotton, cotton linters, cotton waste and cotton yarn.

"And we do hereby further declare that this our royal proclamation shall take effect from the date of its publication in the London Gazette."

The proclamation was signed yesterday by King George.

United States Is Certain

to Make Strong Protest

Announcement that cotton had been declared absolute contraband of war by Great Britain came as no surprise to officials here. Secretary Lansing was informally advised by the British embassy some time ago that this action had been decided upon, and that formal notice would be given in the near future. This included, it is understood, preparations to protect the market from the effect of the announcement and also an understanding between Great Britain and her allies.

While officials would not discuss the subject last night it is certain the United States will protest against the British action, citing the previous consistent policy of Great Britain in holding cotton free of restraint. The result, it is expected, will be to draw out a full explanation of the reasons behind the British change of policy. A long course of official interchanges undoubtedly will follow before an agreement can be reached, or possibly, the question be submitted to arbitration.

Will Simplify Discussion.

The first direct effect of the British announcement will be to simplify the discussion over the orders in council now in progress. Cotton ships have formed a large percentage of the total number of craft held up under the orders, each case involving much informal debate over arrangements for payment by Great Britain for the cargoes seized.

Each case, also, became an additional factor in the formal discussion between the two governments, the United States having steadily maintained the accepted rules of international law in halting commerce between neutrals, more especially commerce in non-contraband goods.

With cotton declared contraband, all these cases will be closed. There will be no payment for seized cargoes, as heretofore, and the informal discussion, so far as cotton is concerned, is at an end.

May Make Purchases.

It is understood the British plan is to steady the cotton market through actual purchases if that becomes necessary. Probably cotton factors will be commissioned to keep the commodity above a fixed minimum price. It has been suggested, however, that with this determination known to the cotton dealers, it is unlikely that there will be any great drop or that the British government will be called upon to act. Crop conditions this year, it is said, will make it easier to maintain prices because open markets unaffected by the allies' action are more than able to absorb the entire production.

PRESIDENT SURE
TO BE DELIBERATE
ABOUT THE ARABIC

Reasonable Doubt Arises as to Physical Facts Connected With German Act.

MAY TAKE FORTNIGHT
TO GATHER INFORMATION

Mr. Wilson and Secretary Lansing Confer Over Meager Dispatches.

MR. GERARD IS TO INQUIRE

Inconsistencies in Survivors' Statements as to What Took Place and British Censorship Complicate the Situation.

THE ARABIC SITUATION.

Following an announcement yesterday afternoon that the Arabic was not conveyed, the British government last night added that the ship had not attempted to escape, and did not try to ram the submarine, but, on the contrary, slowed down to aid the Dunsley, which had just previously been torpedoed.

Two Americans definitely believed lost, the White Star line announcing the death list, finally, as thirty-nine, of which twelve were cabin passengers, six steerage and twenty-one of the crew.

No excitement in Berlin, dispatches saying that the newspapers are afraid to comment.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing confer, with result that reasonable doubt as to conditions arises, and it is definitely decided to instruct Ambassador Gerard to ask explanation at Berlin.

Former President Roosevelt issues statement, declaring that the severing of diplomatic relations with Germany would not be adequate, that the submarine attacks by Germans represent arrogant answers which United States weakness has inspired, that the time for deeds has come, and that the people of United States were unwise not to insist upon military preparedness.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing held a conference yesterday afternoon on the subject of the torpedoing of the British White Star liner Arabic, in which it now seems definitely established that two United States citizens lost their lives, with the result that reasonable doubt as to the conditions surrounding the sinking of the ship has arisen, and the Washington government to proceed with deliberation in its purpose to fix responsibility for the loss of American lives and the jeopardizing of a score of others.

The gathering of the necessary information may take a fortnight or more. Nevertheless, Germany will be given an opportunity to explain this last sea tragedy, and it is possible to show whether the conditions justified the German submarine commander in sinking the liner, in apparent disregard of the solemn protest of the United States government against the destruction of merchant vessels bearing United States citizens without proper warning and opportunity for succor.

Physical Facts Necessary.

President Wilson and Secretary Lansing conferred on the Arabic situation with the text of two messages from Ambassador Page at London before then, giving the details of the destruction of the ship as far as they have been gathered from American survivors. The ambassador and consular officials in England have been instructed to supplement their reports with all available information bearing upon the physical facts of the tragedy. The additional affidavits will be studied carefully, but in the mean time the German explanation will be sought.

No cablegrams came from Ambassador Page yesterday, but contained no information whatever regarding the physical features of the attack on the Arabic. The White Star line officers informed the ambassador that Mrs. Brugiere and Dr. Edmund Wood were the only Americans missing; that Paul Brugiere was confident that he saw his mother in the water and was sure that she was lost.

In the second message the ambassador said Vice Consul Thompson had informed him that Mr. and Mrs. Brugiere and J. Kellert should be added to the list of those who have been saved.

The name of Mrs. Moore, it was said, should be changed to Leopold Moore in the list of survivors, leaving the missing only two—Mrs. Brugiere and Dr. Wood.

Instructions to Gerard.

Ambassador Gerard at Berlin will be instructed to look to the German government for an explanation of the sinking of the Arabic, or at least for a statement of the facts, so far as they have been reported to the admiralty by the commander of the submarine.

That this might take a fortnight is realized from the fact that the German admiralty has heretofore declared that it could communicate with the submarines on the ocean lanes only with difficulty and that often it was necessary to await their return to home ports.

It is recalled that so far the State Department has been unable to secure reports from the German foreign office in the case of the Orduna, shelled more than a fortnight ago, and the same may be true of the Arabic.

(Continued on Thirteenth Page.)

THREE RUSS SHIPS
AND ONE GERMAN
SINK IN BATTLE

Two Others of Teutonic Fleet in Riga Gulf Go Out of Commission.

MINES DAMAGE THREE
ENEMY TORPEDO BOATS

Czar's Defending Squadron Suffers Heavily, Several War Craft Being Struck.

FIGHT LASTS FORTNIGHT

Kaiser's Vessels Long Seek to Force Way Through in Order to Aid Army's Operations on Coast.

BERLIN, August 21, via London.—Three Russian warships and one German warship, all small vessels, have been sunk in the battle in the Gulf of Riga. Official announcement to this effect was made today.

Two other German warships were put out of commission during the engagement. One ran ashore and the other was damaged.

A statement from the German admiralty concerning the battle reads as follows:

"Our Baltic naval forces penetrated the Gulf of Riga after mine sweepers had swept the mine fields and net obstructions. In the outpost engagements which developed a Russian torpedo boat of the Emir Pucharskii class was destroyed and other torpedo boats, among them the Novik, and one large vessel were severely damaged while retreating.

"On the evening of the 19th, in Moon sound, the Russian gunboats Sivuch and Koreets were sunk by artillery fire and torpedo boats, after brave resistance. Forty members of the crews, including two officers, some severely wounded, were rescued by our torpedo boats.

"Three of our torpedo boats were damaged by mines. One sank, one was run aground and one was escorted to port. "Our loss of life was small."

Lost Gunboats Sister Ships.

The Russian gunboats Sivuch and Koreets were sister ships of 857 tons displacement. They were 218 feet long, 36 feet beam and 3 feet deep. They carried two 4.7-inch guns and four 3-inch guns. Their normal complement was 140 men each.

For nearly a fortnight a powerful German squadron was in an attempt to force an entrance into the Gulf of Riga, for the purpose of assisting the German army in its operations in the western part of the coast. The Russians asserted that they repulsed the German attack and destroyed nine German battleships, twelve cruisers and a large number of destroyers, but the Germans were not in a position to make a general attack, but merely a reconnaissance.

Russ Warships Drawn In.

Later the Russians announced that their warships had been drawn in closer on account of the superiority of the German squadron, and an official communication received last night from Petrograd said that a German fleet had penetrated the gulf and engaged the Russian vessels.

The Russian vessels sunk bears out a statement from Petrograd that the chief units of the Russian fleet were not in the Gulf of Riga, which was defended by mines and small warships.

Main Russ Fleet Not at Riga.

PETROGRAD, August 21.—The newspaper Russky Invalid states that the chief units of the Russian Baltic fleet are not in the gulf of Riga, which a German fleet has entered and engaged the Russian naval defenders. The gulf of Riga, the newspaper declares, is defended by mines and small warships.

Admiral A. H. McCormick

Dies at Annapolis, Md.

Rear Admiral Alexander Hugh McCormick, U. S. N., retired, seventy-three years old, died last night at the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md. He was a member of the United States Navy for more than thirty years. He was born in 1842. He was a member of the United States Navy for more than thirty years. He was born in 1842.

FOR SALVING SUBMARINES.

Naval Officers at Newport, R. I., Testing New Device.

NEWPORT, R. I., August 21.—A device for the salvaging of a submarine unable to reach the surface is being tested by naval officers here. In the course of the experiments the submarine G-1, submerged to a depth of between fifty and sixty feet, was brought to the surface, it became known here tonight.

Lieut. Robert T. Merrill, attached to the submarine tender Tonopah, is the inventor of the device, the nature of which is kept secret.

FOREST FIRES DESTROY TOWN.

Wahl, Wash., Burns, and Canadian Town in Danger.

BELLINGHAM, Wash., August 21.—Forest fires which have been raging in Whatcom county today destroyed the village of Wahl, near here. There was no loss of life.

The fire approaching Wahl, it was estimated, advanced a mile every five minutes, leveling crops and destroying small timber.

Maple Falls, near the Canadian border, is in the path of the fire, and desperate efforts are being made to save that place.

ITALIANS NOW HAMMER
AT OUTPOSTS OF TRENT

Face Fearful Task in Seizing Gigantic Defenses of the Austrians.

VERONA, Italy, August 21.—Italian artillery is now hammering at the outposts of the great entrenched camp of Trent. The Austrian position on Mount Panarotta, an attack on which by Italian artillery was announced in the latest official communication from Gen. Cadorna, lies to the northeast of Leivico, which is ten miles southeast of Trent. This mountain, more than 6,000 feet high, is one of the outposts of Trent.

Have Difficult Task.

In attempting to advance on Trent the Italian forces have before them a long and difficult task. From the top of Mount Panarotta down to Tenna Pass is a succession of forts and intrenchments extending for more than twenty miles and connected by underground passages built last September.

The gigantic defenses of the Austrians around Trent extend from Steivo Pass, near the Swiss frontier, down to Lake Garda and up to the Carnic Alps. They form a barrier more than 200 miles long, in which are concentrated the most formidable bulwarks.

King of Italy Under Fire.

FROM THE ITALIAN FRONT TO BRESCIA, via Paris, August 21.—A number of journalists who were conducted to the front have approached the Austrian territory along the Chiese valley, where Garibaldi stopped in 1866 while marching toward Trent. While there an automobile, in which was King Victor Emmanuel, accompanied only by a colonel, appeared. The king was hastening toward the trenches to bid his soldiers good morning.

The spot was three miles from the Austrian batteries, which shelled the region where the king quietly discussed military matters with his staff and examined the Austrian positions. Victor Emmanuel is thinner than in 1866, while marching toward Trent. While there an automobile, in which was King Victor Emmanuel, accompanied only by a colonel, appeared.

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SWIMMERS IN CONTEST
COVERING FIFTY MILES

BOSTON, August 21.—What is claimed to be the longest swimming race ever attempted was under way tonight, Samuel Richards, Jr., of this city and Henry F. Sullivan of Lowell battling with the waters in Massachusetts bay on their way from Nantasket beach to Race Point at the tip of Cape Cod. They started this afternoon on the course, which will require nearly fifty miles to complete.

Six hours after the start they had covered thirteen miles. Both swimmers were in good shape. Richards was slightly in the lead.

ABE RUEF IS PAROLED

Former San Francisco "Boss" Had Been in Prison More Than Four Years.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 21.—Abraham Ruef, once a power in San Francisco politics, serving a fourteen-year sentence for offering a bribe to a San Francisco supervisor, was paroled today from San Quentin penitentiary by the state board of prison directors.

Ruef's parole provides that he shall go to Mendocino county, where he has a ranch, and remain there ninety days. Ruef requested that this condition be made, so that he might not be charged with renewing activity in San Francisco politics, where a municipal election campaign is under way.

Ruef has spent four years, five months and fifteen days in prison. He was sentenced to fourteen years in prison for having offered a bribe to Supervisor J. J. Furey. His conviction was one of the results of the famous San Francisco graft prosecution.

With full credits for good behavior his fourteen-year sentence was automatically reduced to eight years and ten months. He has served half of this minimum requisite for parole.

ALBANIANS IN U. S. PROTEST.

Declare Against Partition of Old Home by Powers.

BOSTON, August 21.—In the name of the Albanians of America F. S. Noli, president of the Pan-Albanian Federation of American "Albans," today appealed to the entente powers to prevent partition of Albania by the Balkan states, appealed to Pope Benedict XV to the same end and sent to President Wilson a protest against violation of the treaty of London, which, Mr. Noli said, guaranteed the independence and integrity of Albania.

President Wilson was asked to "use his moral influence to prevent partition of Albania, as proposed by the Balkan states to the entente powers." The appeal to the powers was cabled to the several ministers of foreign affairs.

BRITISH JOURNALIST ACCUSED.

Held by Magistrate Under Defense of the Realm Act.

LONDON, August 21.—Theodore Sington, described as a journalist, was remanded on the charge of having violated the defense of the realm act by sending to an American publication "information calculated to prejudice his majesty's relations with foreign governments."

The prosecutor stated that if the articles in question had been published they might have caused material injury to this country in the minds of American readers. Mr. Sington denied that his articles were intended for publication.

Navy Department Prepared to
Respond to Call From Ad-
miral Caperton.

A battalion of marines, 350 men, now stationed at Annapolis, has been ordered to prepare at once for embarkation for Haiti in the event of Rear Admiral Caperton's calling for more forces to handle the situation in the island.

If the marines are sent to Haiti, it is probable they will go on the cruiser Tennessee, which is now on her way north from Port au Prince, Haiti. There are at present some 1,800 marines in Haiti and about 200 bluejackets from the naval vessels on duty there are available for shore duty.

Further Trouble Feared.

Further trouble with unruly natives inland from Cape Haitien, indicated as a possibility some time ago, is believed to have prompted Admiral Caperton's request that an additional marine battalion be in readiness to join his force. Officials made it plain that he had not definitely asked for reinforcements and the Tennessee will not go to Annapolis unless further requests come from the admiral.

The role of the revolutionary army left Cape Haitien after refusing to disarm and with the threat that they would repel the invasion of Haitian soil by armed resistance.

Wants Adequate Force.

Admiral Caperton wishes to have a sufficient force available for duty in the north to control the situation. The twelve field pieces, which would go with the Annapolis battalion would be sufficient, it is believed, to put down any revolt further inland, where the Haitian officials are unable to influence the natives.

A slight disturbance was reported by Admiral Caperton as having taken place at Port au Prince Friday night. The message said quiet prevailed yesterday.

GOING TO SANTO DOMINGO.

Dr. Bobo Says He Left Haiti for "Patriotic Reasons."

SAN JUAN, P. R., August 21.—Dr. Rosalvo Bobo, who headed the recent revolt in Haiti against the administration of the late President Guillaume, and who subsequently was defeated in the elections for the presidency of the republic by Gen. Dartiguenave, arrived in San Juan today on his way to Santo Domingo, where he intends to take up his residence.

Dr. Bobo said he left Port au Prince the day after the election of Gen. Dartiguenave for "purely patriotic reasons, and to make the work of the American forces there easier."

J. W. BROWN FOUND DEAD.

Frederick County, Va., Farmer May Have Been Murdered.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE STAR. WINCHESTER, Va., August 21.—The body of John W. Brown, aged about sixty-two years, widely known farmer of the northern section of Frederick county, who had been missing since August 8, was found accidentally this afternoon by a party of young men in a mountainous section near his home, several hundred yards from his home, with gunshot wounds in the body, indicating he had been murdered.

Spade and shovel, with which a shallow grave had evidently been dug, were found nearby. The body was covered with small branches and leaves and one arm was left uncovered. When Brown left home two weeks ago he was dressed as if going to church, but later the family thought he had gone to relatives in Pittsburgh, Pa.

He was of eccentric disposition. Some years ago he had a dispute with Charles E. Ketter, a wealthy farmer, over sheep, and shot Ketter, who lost one hand. The latter died on an adjoining farm recently. Brown leaves a large family connection.

ITALY DECLARES WAR
AGAINST TURKEY WHEN
DEMAND IS SPURNED

Porte Refuses Permission to Rome's Subjects to Leave Syria Unmolested.

MOSLEM AID FOR LIBYA REVOLT
ANOTHER REASON FOR ACTION

Italian Ambassador Presents Final Note in Constantinople and Demands Passports—Friction Has Been Marked.

LONDON, August 21.—Italy has declared war against Turkey and the Italian ambassador has left Constantinople. This announcement is made in a Reuter telegram from Constantinople, via Berlin and Amsterdam. A Steffani News Agency dispatch from Rome also says Italy has made her long-expected declaration against Turkey.

The reasons given in the note for Italy's action were the support given by Turkey to the revolt in Libya and the prevention of the departure of Italian residents from Syria unmolested.

Marquis di Garroni, Italian ambassador to Turkey, today handed to the porte the note declaring Italy considered herself in a state of war with Turkey, and demanded his passports, according to an official telegram from Constantinople received at Amsterdam and transmitted to the Central News.

The newspapers of Rome have unanimously urged that the government declare war against Turkey if it be ascertained that every effort to obtain permission for Italians to leave Ottoman territory was unavailing.

The Italian government, says a Steffani dispatch from Rome, has sent to all its representatives abroad a circular dispatch setting forth the questions at issue between Italy and Turkey. The dispatch closes with these words:

"In view of these obvious infractions of categorical promises made by the Ottoman government, and following upon our ultimatum of August 3, provoked by evasions of the Ottoman government particularly with regard to the free departure of Italian subjects from Asia Minor, the Italian government has sent instructions to its ambassador at Constantinople to declare war upon Turkey."

Friction in Evidence. Although Italy declared war on Austria May 24 and hostilities between the two powers began immediately, there has never been any declaration of war between Italy and Germany, the ally of Austria, while until now Italy and Turkey, the ally of the central powers, nominally have been at peace. Friction between Turkey and Italy, however, has been evident since shortly after the latter's entry into the war.

Early in June there were reports that Italian consuls were gradually leaving Turkey and that American officials were taking over the task of looking out for Italian interests. Later charges were made that the Ottoman government was preventing these consuls from leaving and that similar coercion was being exerted over Italian civilians who wished to quit Turkish soil.

Asks Aid of United States. July 20 advices came from Rome that the Italian government had addressed a note to the United States asking it to use its influence to protect Italian subjects in the Ottoman domains. The complaint that they were being prevented from leaving was reiterated.

Two days later the Italian cabinet met for the supposed purpose of discussing the situation as regarded Turkey, and almost coincidentally the Italian government began to make a categorical statement as to Turkey that Turkey had violated the treaty of Lausanne, an undertaking according to the terms of which she pledged herself to withdraw all Turkish troops and officers from the Cyrenaica district in Tripoli and Senusli tribesmen in this locality. Instead of doing this, it was alleged, Enver Pasha, the Turkish minister of war, last March sent his brother, Nuri Bey, to Cyrenaica to foment rebellion.

Makes Another Protest. August 3 the Italian ambassador at Constantinople made another protest to Turkey relative to the attitude of the Ottoman authorities toward Italian subjects.

Turk Provocations Intolerable. A meeting of the Italian cabinet was held Friday and at that time Baron Sonnino, Italian minister of foreign affairs, presented an exhaustive report on the Turkish situation. He asserted that the Turkish provocations had become intolerable. The cabinet's decision was kept secret. A dispatch today stated that the Italian ambassador at Constantinople had been instructed to hand to the porte a note asking for a formal categorical statement as to the departure of Italians from Turkish possessions. It was unofficially stated that the note was in the nature of an ultimatum and that a reply was expected Saturday.

Invaded Austria. "Immediately upon the declaration of war, the Italian troops occupied many important positions in the Trentino and Cadore, with a view to counterbalancing the enormous advantages which the frontier drawn in 1866 placed against the Italian army."

practically impassable, owing to the most up-to-date fortifications Austria had built with profusion along the whole length of